

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. ____

Introduced by: Koch

A HOUSE RESOLUTION urging the Indiana Department of Transportation to name U.S. Highway 50 between Brownstown and North Vernon in honor of Governor Edgar Whitcomb.

Whereas, Governor Edgar Whitcomb is a great Hoosier and a great American;

Whereas, Governor Whitcomb was born in Hayden in Jennings County on November 6, 1917;

Whereas, Governor Whitcomb attended Indiana University until the outbreak of World War II;

Whereas, During World War II, Governor Whitcomb served heroically in the Philippines;

Whereas, Governor Whitcomb was stationed at Clark Field in the Philippines when it was attacked just days after the strike on Pearl Harbor and was part of the defense of the Philippines and until the fall of Bataan;



Whereas, Taken captive by the Japanese, Governor Whitcomb endured brutal treatment, threats of death, and confinement in a cramped cell:

Whereas, Finally freed in a prisoner exchange, Governor Whitcomb eventually returned to the Philippines serving as an aerial navigator;

*Whereas, Governor Whitcomb wrote about his war experiences in books entitled *Escape from Corregidor* and *On Celestial Wings*;*

Whereas, After the war was over, Governor Whitcomb returned to Indiana University and completed his law degree and practiced law in North Vernon, Seymour, and Indianapolis for 14 years;

Whereas, It was during this time that Governor Whitcomb began to develop a political base and first ran for public office;

Whereas, In 1966, Whitcomb was elected Secretary of State; in 1968, he was elected governor;

Whereas, Governor Whitcomb was inaugurated as the 43rd governor of Indiana on January 13, 1969, and served for four years;

Whereas, After leaving office, Governor Whitcomb served as director of the Mid American World Trade Association and resumed his law practice in Indianapolis;

Whereas, After retirement, Governor Whitcomb returned to southern Indiana; and

Whereas, Governor Whitcomb served his state and his country in time of war and peace; and he is a dedicated Hoosier whose contributions to our state and nation will be felt for generations to come: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the



General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly recognizes and honors the accomplishments of Governor Edgar Whitcomb and urges the Indiana Department of Transportation to name that section of Highway 50 between Brownstown and North Vernon in honor of Governor Edgar Whitcomb.

SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit copies of this resolution to the commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation.

